

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 308030
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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:SFROMOWITZ
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P 211642Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 308030

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, YO

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO RICHARDSON VISIT:MARAD DENIAL OF
WAIVERS

REFERENCE: BELGRADE 7886

1.DEPARTMENT'S OF STATE AND COMMERCE ARE ANXIOUS TO MOVE
AHEAD TO RESOLVE PRESENT DISPUTE OVER REPORTED YUGOSLAV
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST US SHIPPING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
RECEIVING REPORT ON ANY FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS WITH GOY
OFFICIALS WHICH RESULTED FROM SECRETARY RICHARDSON'S DIS-
CUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH FOREIGN TRADE SECRETARY LUD-
VIGER AND RICHARDSON'S ENSUING SUGGESTION THAT GOY PROVIDE
EMBASSY WITH WRITTEN REPORT OF ITS INVESTIGATION.

2. AS EMBASSY AWARE FROM EARLIER TRAFFIC ON THIS SUBJECT,
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WHAT MARAD IS CONCERNED WITH IS A GOY SUBSIDY TO YUGOSLAV
EXPORTERS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE BOTH YUGOSLAV PORTS AND
YUGOSLAV FLAG VESSELS, WHICH WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF
PLACING FOREIGN (INCLUDING US) FLAG VESSELS AT A DISADVANT-
AGE IN COMPETING FOR BUSINESS. HOWEVER, THE CHARGE OF
DISCRIMINATION DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INVOLVE EITHER TAX RE-

LIEF FOR OR A REBATE TO YUGOSLAV-FLAG CARRIERS.

3. FYI. WE EXPECT A LARGE EXIM-FINANCED CONTRACT TO BP READY FOR SHIPMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND EXPECT THE YUGOSLAVS TO REQUEST A WAIVER UNDER PUBLIC RESOLUTION (PR) 17. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PROCEDURES, MARAD WILL ONCE AGAIN HAVE TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF DISCRIMINATION UNDER PR 17 BEFORE DECIDING ON A WAIVER WHICH WOULD PERMIT JUGOLINIJA TO CARRY PART OF THE FREIGHT. WE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO HAVE THE YUGOSLAV POSITION CLARIFIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING ON EITHER SIDE.
KISSINGER

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